

## PHYSOSTEGIA VIRGINIANA VAR. ARENARIA SHIMEK, AN OVERLOOKED NAME

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In a recent monograph of the genus *Physostegia* (Cantino, 1982), an obscure but validly published name was overlooked. *Physostegia virginiana* (L.) Benth. var. *arenaria* Shimek, Bull. Lab. Nat. Hist. Iowa State Univ. **6** (2): 223 (1911), was described as a new variety in a footnote to an ecological treatise on Iowa prairies. There appears to have been only one mention of the name in print since its initial publication (Guldner, 1960). Even Shimek never again used it, either in print or on herbarium labels.

From the description, Shimek's variety is clearly referable to *Physostegia virginiana* (L.) Benth. ssp. *praemorsa* (Shinners) Cantino and should be placed as a synonym under that taxon. However, if this subspecies were to be recognized at the varietal level, Shimek's name would have priority.

Because Shimek did not designate a type, a lectotype must be selected. The type locality is reported in the protologue as "the sand mound in Muscatine and Louisa counties [Iowa] south of Muscatine." This locality, known today as Big Sand Mound, has been discussed by Brown and Brown (1939) and Guldner (1960). Only four Shimek collections of *Physostegia virginiana* ssp. *praemorsa* from this locality are known to us. None of these are deposited at IA, where Shimek's personal collections are housed. Two of the specimens were collected after the publication of var. *arenaria*. Of the remaining two, the one that corresponds best to the original description is here designated as the lectotype of *Physostegia virginiana* var. *arenaria* Shimek: Iowa, Louisa Co., near Fruitland, sand mound, 25 September 1909, B. Shimek s.n., DAO!

### LITERATURE CITED

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